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SAGINAW, MICHIGAN

THE VALLEY
STAR

VOLUME I, Issue 5 | SAGINAW, MICHIGAN | DECEMBER 24, 1970

CHRISTMAS

IN THE EAST A STAR SHONE, GUIDING THE MAGI TO THE MIRACLE OF THE MANGER. MAY THE MESSAGE OF THE NATIVITY LIGHT OUR WAY TO JOY AND PEACE.

WITH GRATITUDE, WE SEND GREETINGS.

Christmas Spirit Spreads Its Joy

By ANNA MANG

"Merry Christmas, one and all."

With this simple and sincere greeting, all the warmth and excitement of Christmas reaches its peak.

In this community, as in cities and towns throughout the nation and around the world, days and weeks of list-making, gift-shopping, home-decorating, party-planning and Christmas-program-rehearsing are reaching a happy culmination.

Families gather, Santa enters, church bells ring. Christmas arrives!

Every year, Christmas seems to generate more eager anticipation, here and everywhere, with earlier and more enthusiastic planning — appropriately, for part of the spirit and the joy of Christmas is in the planning.

The spirit of Christmas starts with thoughtfulness. It begins in the hearts of each of us. It grows with a hope, a wish, a prayer.

It shows itself, outwardly, in such manifestations as merry songs and bountiful gifts, and in the festive decorations and glowing lights now adorning local streets and stores, homes and churches.

It expresses itself, most deeply, in private devotions and in special services such as those scheduled by local churches.

It is a spirit abounding in legend and lore, in customs and traditions honored through the years. And most of all, it is the spirit of reverence and joy that shepherds and wise men knew.

To capture that spirit is to keep Christmas truly and well, for it enriches all the things this wonderful season stands for.

* * *

Singing Carols

With voices lifted in harmony for "Silent Night," "The First Noel" and other beloved songs, today's carolers carry on a Christmas custom that originated centuries ago.

In the fourth century A.D., St. Basil was praised with a musical poem in honor of the fight for Christianity over the Byzantine emperor Julian. Later in Greece, legends of St. Basil were set to music and sung at Christmas and the New Year.

St. Francis of Assisi led the villagers of Grecchio in singing hymns of praise to the Christ Child when in the 13th century he created a manger scene in this Italian town.

For Children

Christmas is for children. Candies and cookies and all those holiday goodies, trees gaily adorned and brightly lighted, Santa's pack stuffed with surprises — all these things are planned and prepared just for the children.

Or at least, so the grown-ups say, and who's to doubt them?

In a still more special way, Christmas is for children. The manger scene in homes and churches ever reminds us that the Child born in Bethlehem was He who later said, "Suffer little children to come unto me."

Decorating Trees

The gaily decorated tree so much a part of Christmas has its counterpart in trees adorned with colorful trinkets during the ancient feasts of the winter equinox.

This pagan custom of decorating evergreens became associated with Christmas observances, and legends link it to the birth of Jesus. One such story says that on the night of the Nativity, all the woodland trees burst into bloom and bore fruit.

For Rejoicing

Christmas is for rejoicing. Since first the herald angels sang, this rejoicing has most often found expression in music and song.

"Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men," the angels sang.

Now as in earliest times, the spirit of joy and wonder echoes anew in the hymns and carols of Christmas.

★

THE CHRISTIAN CANDLE

The Christian candle, symbolic of Christ, "The Light Of The World", originated from sacred Roman and Hebrew Customs. Tapers of tallow from animal fats later were candles made of beeswax, as it became more plentiful. In many nations these were held erect by metal holders clamped onto the branches of the Christmas tree. Sanctified they were believed to radiate love and friendship, to dispel hatered and discord, just as our electrified counterparts today.

☆☆☆☆☆☆

VALLEY STAR

You can call the Valley Star for want ads, swap shop, paper delivery to your door.

Phone number 752-0416.

Bus Service Provided

Bus Service to and from the downtown area will be provided, Saturdays, now till Christmas. Round trips will be scheduled at 8:30, 10:30, and 4:30. This service is sponsored by the Downtown Saginaw Association for your Christmas shopping convenience.

CHRISTMAS GREETINGS

1970 has been quite a year. . .it was the year when "a new star was born. . .The Valley Star. Here at the Valley Star, we've had a lot of fun bringing our new publication into being. It hasn't been easy and we realize that we've got a long way to go before it is the kind of publication that we ultimately want for this community.

As the New Year unfolds, we hope that we may expand our coverage, increase our service and become an increasingly more meaningful addition to our special community. With your support and help, we can do this. We always look forward to your comments – favorable and unfavorable. . .and we especially hope to have your financial support and your support in the way of news and articles.

Stars have been a pleasant past-time for me. Besides the Valley Star, we've had the honor and privilege of helping to bring recognition to "stars" in our community. . .wonderful people who deserve special recognition. One of these happy events has been the Miss Autumn Leaves program. At the right is a picture of ye olde editor, Jim Colvin, congratulating Miss Christine Jernigan upon her winning of the Miss Autumn Leaves of 1970 title. . .it was a happy moment.

To all the wonderful people who have given us encouragement, to the wonderful folks who have patronized our new STAR, and to the fine readers who we seek to serve, A Very Merry Christmas.

When Families Gather, It's Christmas!

Through the years, the ways of celebrating Christmas have taken on many different forms.

A beautiful custom that originated in Austria is the Advent Wreath.

The wreath is made of pine or holly and has four candles in it. One candle is lighted on each of the four Sundays preceding Christmas, while one of the children reads a part of the Christmas Story from the Bible. All four candles are lighted on Christmas Day.

Another custom observed by many Austrian families is the placing of apple twigs in a vase of water on St. Barbar's Day, December 4th. If the twigs blossom by Christmas Eve, good fortune will come to the family, and the more blossoms there are, the greater the luck.

Today's Christmas tree is apt to be plastic or aluminum, rather than nature's own fir, spruce or pine. The glow of tiny beeswax candles on a tree is only a memory, replaced now by strings of twinkling electric lights.

Jolly Santa, once transported only by reindeer-drawn sleigh, may now arrive by helicopter or jet plane.

But in spite of changes, the essence of the season, the basic spirit of Christmas, stays the same.

Christmastide is, above all, a time for togetherness and rejoicing. And a modern Christmas, just like an old-fashioned Christmas, calls for gatherings of family and friends, with much merriment, fun and feasting.

Right now in this community, families are celebrating the holiday with just such gatherings, such merriment, fun and feasting.

Like families of yesteryear, they celebrate with gifts and greens, with the warmth of a glowing hearth and the gleam of a lighted tree, with stockings hung by the chimney with care and even with candles, though these beckon brightly from candleholders rather than from the tree.

All these ways of celebrating are part of the legend and lore of Christmas.

Exchanging Gifts

Exchanging gifts at Christmas is one of the most time-honored of customs, and toys, dolls and games for the children have always ranked high on the gifts list.

In the not-so-long-ago, however, just one important present — a doll for a little girl, perhaps, and a toy accordion for her brother—was all that youngsters might expect at Christmas.

Though Santa is more bountiful nowadays, the gifts he brings are like those of yesteryear in at least one way. They reflect the interests and fashions of their times.

Dolls, yesterday and today, dress in the favorite styles of the moment. Toys, too, show the influence of current events.

Toy racing cars, for instance, came in with the automobile, while today more complex types of wheel toys take advantage of modern technological developments.

Using Greens

Use of greens and garlands to decorate for a festive season goes back a thousand years before the birth of Christ. The custom began with the ancient Egyptians.

Many of the traditions of pagan festivals were later merged with the celebration of Christmas.

FORETELL THE FUTURE

There is an old superstition still being followed by some people today; and not only at New Years. It is an attempt to prophesy the future by "dipping" into the Bible at random. A person places his finger on a certain spot, reads the passage, and then tries to make it foretell his future.

O, Holy Night, when all the world was still. There, in the distance, shone a mighty star with a luster that burns brightly now in the hearts of all men of good will. May thoughts of that first Christmas bring peace to all.

Thank you for your generous consideration.

LIDDEL'S MARKET

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a Joyous Christmas

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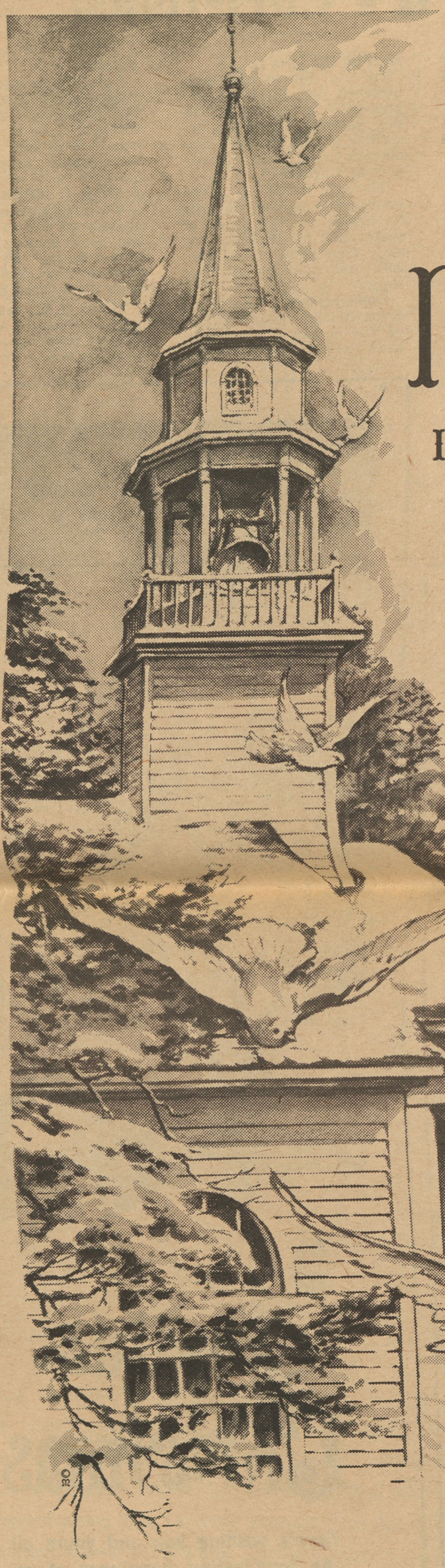


PEACE in the NEW YEAR

In high-steepled churches across the land, bells ring out the old year, ring in the new. At this time, as we exchange greetings, let us join together in prayer that the New Year ahead may bring the blessings of peace.

We heartily extend our deep appreciation and thanks to our patrons for their loyal support and friendly good will.

Management and Employees

of

Sears and Company

Yule Greens Set Scene For Festivity

From the welcoming wreath on the door to the Christmas tree glowing with lights and bedecked with packages, from the cheery poinsettia plant on the mantel or table to the sprig of mistletoe with its promises of kisses and laughter, greens and plants set the scene for holiday enjoyment.

Many of the greens now used for Christmas decorations once adorned pagan rites, and were credited by the ancients with certain mystical powers and virtues.

Today, using greens has become holiday custom, regardless of religious or symbolic significance.

* * *

About Trees

Perhaps the most common use of holiday greens is seen in the lively, decorated Christmas tree found in many homes at this time of year.

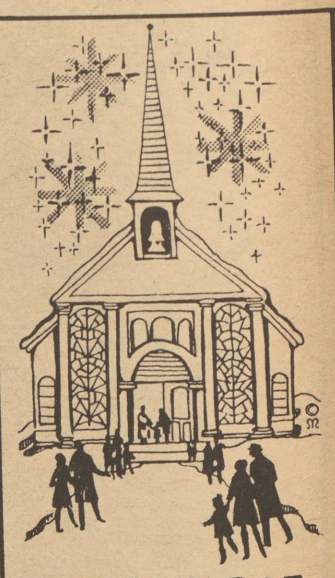
There are many legends concerning the origin of Christmas trees. One belief is that the first Christmas tree was a palm tree brought from Egypt. The 12 parts of the palm were supposed to represent the 12 apostles, according to the editors of the Encyclopedia Americana.

The use of pine and cedar Yule trees is generally thought to be of German derivation. The introduction of the evergreen Christmas tree came to English-speaking peoples after the marriage of Victoria of England to the German prince, Albert.

How To Wrap That Round Package

To wrap a round package, place the package on the paper and cut so that there is an inch overlap on the side. Fix neatly with tape. Leave enough paper at both ends to fold over and meet in the center of the cylinder. Pleat these ends neatly toward the center making firm creases. Cut two circles of paper to fit the ends of the cylinder and paste them over the pleats.

A round package or object can also be wrapped in several layers of tissue paper with overlap fixed with tape, and two or three inches of paper at each end. Tie the end overlaps firmly with ribbon or yarn. Cut rosette like ends that result in thin strips to resemble a party "snapper". Decorate each end with a bow.



THE SPIRIT OF *Christmas*

May the true spirit of Christmas fill your hearts and homes, our sincere thanks to all.

JERRY'S GROCERY
1303 N. 6th St.

Yesteryear's Customs Live At Yuletide

Candles and carols, trees and treats, gifts and greens — and Santa Claus, of course. Wherever Christmas is celebrated, these symbols seem to appear.

In the modern era of rapid communication, there is a growing uniformity in the ways that people everywhere choose to mark the holiday.

Yesteryear's customs, however, still have their place in modern celebrations. It's a case of "the more things change, the more they stay the same," as countries, communities and individuals seek to cherish and preserve their own special holiday traditions.

Some of these traditions, as treasured in memory or kept alive in holiday ritual, are compiled in the following paragraphs, according to information from the editors of Encyclopedia International.

* * *

It's a Mystery

Mysterious things happen on Christmas Eve, say country legends of Switzerland. Young people may foretell the future, if they drink from nine different fountains while the midnight church bells chime. Then, if they hasten to the church steps, their future mates will await them there.

Somewhat less romantically, older folk seek to predict the weather for the coming year, using onion peels filled with salt.

* * *

How Many Holidays?

Traditionally, Belgians celebrate three holidays at the Christmas season — beginning with St. Nicholas Day, December 6th, when the good saint brings gifts for children.

Then comes St. Thomas Day, December 21st. It's a sort of "trick or treat" day for school children, who try to play tricks on their teachers.

The third holiday, of course, is Christmas.

* * *

CROWNED FOR YULE

English folk festivals of the Middle Ages crowned a "Lord of Misrule," who directed the holiday celebrations.

Rejoice

It's Christmas! To you, our greetings and gratitude for your favors.

HOUSE OF STYLE BEAUTY SALON

It is one hundred and fifty years since the most-sung of all Christmas carols came into being in the little known town of Oberndorf, 12 miles north of Salzburg, Austria.

Josef Mohr was a young parish priest in Oberndorf a century and a half ago. Franz Gruber was the part time organist at the church. The two were close friends.

Oberndorf had no working church organ in the winter of 1818. It had been damaged by flood waters of the river Salzach. It has been said that the thought of a "silent" Christmas Eve Mass troubled Josef Mohr.

On the afternoon of Dec. 24th, at any rate, he hastily wrote some verses and gave them to his friend Gruber to set to music. The result, played and sung by Mohr and Gruber to the accompaniment of the latters' guitar, after the midnight Mass, and in the Church of St. Nikelaus in Oberndorf, brought instant approval from the townspeople.

At Christmas in 1839, a group of Tyrolean folk singers sang the carol for the first time at a public performance in the United States — in a concert in front of Trinity Church in New York.

Santa Claus Has Origins In America

Today, of course, it just wouldn't be Christmas without Santa Claus, but it is interesting to ponder just where the jolly old gent got his start, and it might be surprising to learn that it wasn't really the North Pole.

The name Santa Claus, itself, is an American derivation of the name St. Nicholas, an early fourth century bishop in Asia Minor, according to the editors of the Encyclopedia International.

Santa was first brought to this country by the early Dutch settlers, who called him Sinterklaas. These Dutch burghers portrayed him as a merry old man, sometimes even with a wife they called Molly Grietje.

Santa also looked a little different then, and he wore a wide-brimmed black hat, short Dutch breeches, and smoked a long clay pipe.

Later, the British brought their own Father Christmas to America — a happy, roly-poly Falstaffian figure.

Inevitably, Sinterklaas and Father Christmas became one. Add to this the Norwegian's Kriss Kringle, with his sleigh and reindeer, and the picture is nearly complete.

It was finally the task of American artists and writers to create an image of Santa Claus such as we know today. Washington Irving, among others, contributed to the concept of Santa as a jolly holiday figure, while Clement Moore, in his famous "Visit from St. Nicholas" ("'Twas the Night Before Christmas"), added to the concept.

However, the notion of Santa Claus which really captured the imagination of young and old alike was drawn by the American cartoonist Thomas Nast in 1863.

GLAD CHRISTMAS TIDINGS

May the peace and joy which radiates from the heart of the Holy Child, fill you and yours with the wonder and splendor of this Blessed Season. And may the miracle of His coming be an inspiration and comfort to you always. Best wishes for a joyous Christmas.

Mrs. Thelma Page

A Faithful Friend

Flowers Speak Language of Love In Modern Era

Like holly, ivy and mistletoe, flowers share in the legend and lore of Christmas. In terms of the Victorian era, the floral legend is an especially meaningful one.

A Victorian lady who received a bouquet from her admirer could either smell it or read it as if it were a letter. Often, it was a letter.

Young engaged couples, strictly chaperoned, found a way to communicate words of affection via flowers. Each flower had a special meaning.

Flowers in sequence could be used to spell out a fervent pledge of love. To help in composing — and translating — these messages, there were numerous tiny dictionaries listing flowers and their meanings.

The flowering honeysuckle, for instance, spoke of "bonds of love." A red rosebud told a lady that she was "pure and lovely." Red double pink meant "woman's love." And heliotrope carried a bold message, "I love you."

This Victorian language of flowers greatly influenced the design of Christmas cards of the time — witness the card illustrated here, from the Norcross Historical Collection of antique cards.

The lush summer blooms are typical of the Victorian admiration of flowers, regardless of the season.

Though sentiments may be expressed differently, flowers still bloom on modern Christmas cards. A current card offers one example. Poinsettias flower on a background of mistletoe, and the message reads, "Just for you, honey, all my love at Christmas."

THOUGHTFUL GIFT

An ideal present for a couple who are moving away — an album filled with pictures of the home, the friends and the activities they are leaving. An album of candid pictures of an anniversary party or wedding reception makes an equally lovely gift. It may be given for the occasion itself or later as a birthday or Christmas present.

Far to the East, a Star shone, and on that first Christmas Eve, its radiance beckoned the Magi to the Miracle of the Manger, there to worship and rejoice in the meaning of His message..."On earth peace, good will toward men." Wherever the wonder of Christmas shines today, may it hearten and inspire us, and may it light the way to peace and joy everlasting. To friends and patrons, many thanks.

SAGINAW DOWNTOWN BUSINESS ASSOCIATION

DSA

After the holidays use the discarded tree as winter protection for shrubs and garden plants.

First, cut off the boughs. Small branches can be placed curved ends up around plantings or over garden beds when the ground is more or less exposed. This will prevent plants from frost heaving.

Another use for the tree after Christmas is as a backyard bird feeder . . . Moreover, they make shelter for winter birds. A fir is ideal since it retains its needles all winter outdoors. The tree should be well anchored, preferably in a hole. Then tie pieces of suet, popcorn, apple, peanut-butter or other morsels of food to the outer branches. Always keep a container of water handy.

One of the most exciting features of Christmas, which everyone in Spain attends, is called "Parade of the Gigantes".

Immense figures 20 or 30 feet high are made from wood or cardboard representing kings, queens, historical or even a mythological figure. These are carried by men of vigor.

The figures are placed on their shoulders (with the aid of a peephole . . . and a snorkel to breathe through) and jig and whirl and frolic, to the music of fife and drum.

A pair of gypsies usually follows along passing the hat among the parade watchers and collecting pesos with great hilarity. This later goes to their favorite charity.

It was once custom for peasant families in various parts of the world to bake a special New Year's cake. The cake was dashed against the door; members of the household picked up the cake and ate it, prayerful that neither hunger nor want would enter the house during the ensuing year.

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Merrily, Bells Are Ringing For Holiday

Ringing across the ages and around the world, bells are part of the traditions of Christmas.

Zurich, Switzerland, has long been noted for its beautiful bells, say the editors of the New Book of Knowledge.

Every Christmas Eve, the Zurich bells ring out loud and clear, calling families to church.

This same tradition is repeated in thousands of other cities, where chimes and bells ring out at midnight from the steeples and spires of churches.

Bells contribute to the sights as well as the sounds of the holiday season. They are a popular decoration and are used as ornaments on trees.

Tradition has it that bells inspired Clement C. Moore to write his famous poem, "A Visit from St. Nicholas."

Wrapping Gifts

When German tradition is followed, unwrapping a Christmas gift can be an amusing but complicated process.

One gift may have many consecutive wrappings, each with a different name on it, and the final wrapping may reveal not a gift, but a card telling where the gift is hidden.

Other cards in other hiding places lead to a treasure hunt.

Barbara Campbell

Campbell's Grocery

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Greetings

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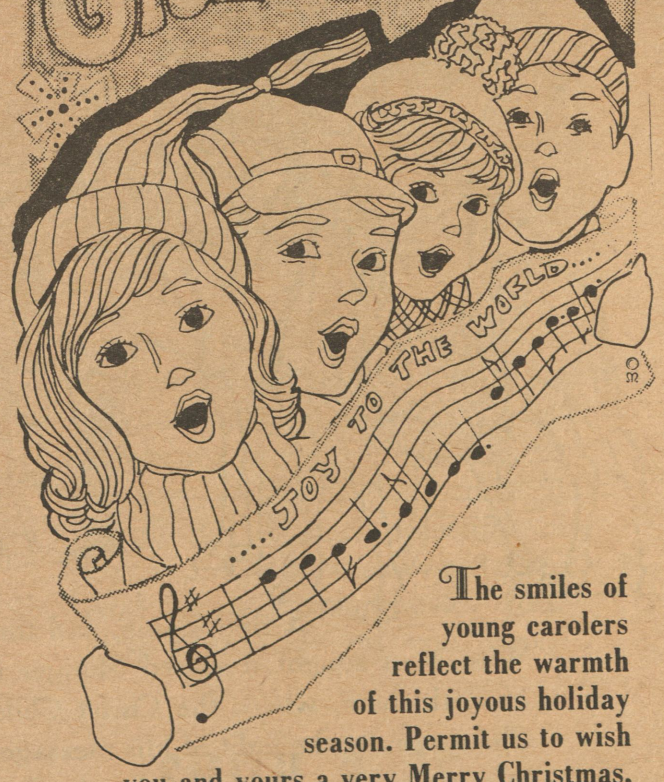
DAWN OF A DECADE

Let's join together and vow
to make the decade ahead
a truly great time of opportunity
for everyone, starting right here
in our own community. The betterment
of mankind shall be our goal.

WOODLEY'S GROCERY

1302 Lapeer SAGINAW

CHRISTMAS GREETINGS



The smiles of young carolers reflect the warmth of this joyous holiday season. Permit us to wish you and yours a very Merry Christmas, and to extend our sincerest appreciation for being wonderful customers! Thank you!!

JEAN'S BEAUTY LAND

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Glad Christmas Tidings

With our thanks, please accept a wish that the season brings many blessings and a spirit of joy that lasts all year long.

SHIVERS BARBER and BEAUTY SHOP

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Prayer For Peace From The Moon

This is the Christmas Prayer offered from lunar orbit by Apollo 8 Commander Frank Borman:

"Give us, O God, the vision which can see Thy love in the world in spite of human failure.

"Give us the faith to trust the goodness in spite of our ignorance and weakness.

"Give us the knowledge that we may continue to pray with understanding hearts, and show us what each one of us can do to set forward the coming of the day of universal Peace. Amen."

Blessings

Joy and blessings to all, during the Holiest of Seasons.

Delmer Drain
Your Operator
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OUR OWN SPIRIT

Each year as the Christmas season approaches we think back of our own childhood Christmases and remember the innocent, uncomplicated joy we felt and how eagerly we awaited the great day. Now, as adults, we still look forward to Christmas with anticipation but with a deeper feeling as a brief period of peace and serenity — a promise of love and good will that perhaps will someday prevail in a world that is now filled with violence and chaos. It is a joyous season to be shared with family and friends and we celebrate around a beautiful table set with our finest china and silver. The most memorable part of Christmas, however, may well be the part we cannot see or touch, the spirit of love and perpetual hope we all have.

Christmas Shoppers who went over board on gifts last year and want to cut down on expenses can find some answers at their local 5 and 10 cent store.

For less than $5 you can come across scores of little items that could be ideal presents. The notions counter of department stores are another source of gift possibilities.

For Dad you can get an imitation — leather tobacco pouch, a date book or a sterling silver key chain.

Mother might like a set of terry-cloth aprons, dish towel and potholder or an attractive metal recipe box. These items range from 69 cents to $3.

For teen age girls there are such things as bobby-pin boxes, hair teasing brushes, nail polish, lipstick, hair ribbons and bows and headbands. You'll see many suitable gifts, just look around.

How about the miniature scale cars and model trucks or one of many games for the boys on your list?

YULE FIRE CONES

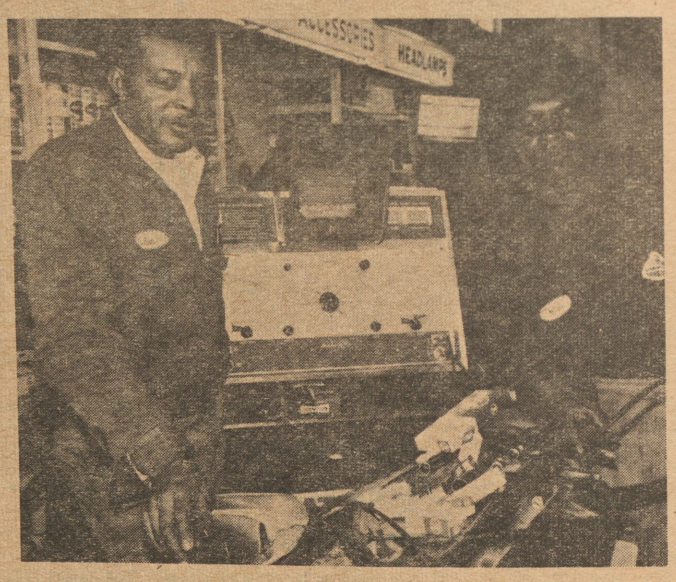
One of the most enchanting and unusual presents you can give is a bag of pine cones or a Yule log chemically treated to burn in beautiful colors. All you need in addition to the cones or logs are ordinary chemicals which can be found in most drugstores or even in your own home. Use a container of crockery or wood of proper size and shape to mix the chemicals in; and protect your hands with rubber gloves.

Select the color you want and mix the chemicals for that color in water in the proportion of about 1/4 pound of chemical to one quart of water. Place the cones or log in a cheesecloth sling and soak in the solution for several minutes. Lay the treated cones on a thick layer of newspaper to dry after draining them well over the container of chemicals. It will take at least two days for them to dry. The following chemicals produce the following colors:

Table Salt . . . . . Yellow	Copper Nitrate . . . . Emerald
Borax . . . . . Bright Green	Lithium Chloride . . . . Purple
Calcium Chloride. . . Orange	Strontium Nitrate. . . . . Red
Copper Sulphate . . . . . Blue	Barium Nitrate . . Apple Green

GREETINGS to ALL

Here's wishing that your Christmas holiday keeps rolling along with lots of merriment for everybody. And to our good customers go our thanks.



J. J. STANDARD STATION

3035 Janes 755-9214

PEACE on EARTH

A Star shone, and three Wise Men sought a sacred Manger in the little town of Bethlehem, where the Christ Child was born. This Christmas, let the light of His message shine into all our lives, spreading "Peace on Earth, Good Will to Men."

To our Valued Friends and Patrons, "Thank You."

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Pageant Has History In Medieval Dramas

As young actors and actresses of this community rehearse their roles for their special Christmas play or pageant, they take part in a custom treasured through the ages.

Since the Christmas story first was told, mankind has sought and found countless ways to create it again and anew, in song and story, in art and drama. The modern Christmas pageant, a feature of church observances in communities near and far, may well trace its history to early religious dramas — the mystery, miracle and morality plays of the Middle Ages.

Where did church drama actually begin? One possible source is the tradition of the Christmas crib or manger scene, but scholarly research indicates that medieval religious drama probably had other, separate origins, according to the editors of Encyclopedia Americana.

Easter Plays Came First

Representations of the manger scene began with the use of doll figures, and history offers no evidence that people were ever substituted for the dolls. Living "actors" did, however, play a part in some early elaborations of church rituals.

In the 10th century, special chants written to accompany church music on festival occasions began to take the form of simple dialogues. These were little more than dramatic inserts in the church services, but here, researchers believe, religious plays had their start.

Easter dialogues and playlets probably came first, with Christmas plays developing as a natural result. Other religious dramas or mystery plays soon followed, until there were series or cycles of plays devoted to telling the entire story of the Scriptures.

Mystery cycles of the 16th century included as many as 40 dramas, which might be presented over a period of several days. The cycles developed in virtually every European country.

Christmas Greetings

Behold the Star.

It's Christmas! At this most joyous time of year we pause to give thought to our blessings . . . numbered among them, your favors and friendly good will. Please accept our sincere thanks along with our best wishes for holiday joy in full measure.

BURGER KING

MR AND MRS SAM PRICE
owners and operators

1505 East Genesee

Saginaw

The ever-lasting meaning of the Christmas season lives in a single word — peace. As we all celebrate with merriment of the season, let us pause also to recall its timeless message of peace and good will toward men. And let us thank you for your kind patronage all year long.

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Carol Can Be Tongue-Twister

"On the first day of Christmas, my true love sent to me a partridge in a pear tree."

So begins "The Twelve Days of Christmas," a traditional and favorite song of the holiday season. The ballad tells the story of the gifts a lover sends to his lady on each of the 12 days from Christmas to Epiphany.

The first gift, a partridge in a pear tree, may have been inspired by an old drinking song, "A Pie sat on a Pear Tree," say the editors of The New Book of Knowledge.

As a ballad, "The Twelve Days of Christmas" is an example of the "number chain formula" in folk songs. As a carol, it is of the type that marked the change from formal hymns in Latin to musical poems in the vernacular of the people.

The song can be sung in a variety of ways. In Great Britain and the United States, it often becomes a game song in which each person, following a leader in repetitions, must pay a forfeit if he misses a line. Sometimes the descriptions of the gifts turn into mouth-defying tongue twisters!

Use Color Scheme

If you choose one color scheme and stick to it, your packages will look more individual and you won't have ribbons and papers that don't match each other.

It is also much less expensive to buy one very large roll of paper, than to invest in costly packaged. Often the packaged papers turn out to have two square sheets which usually are too large or too small for your size package.

At the same time, it is wiser to buy large yardage bolts of ribbon and cheaper in the long run than ribbons measured in feet.

GREETINGS

Peace and Joy

On the eve of His Birth, may the light of love and understanding shine upon you and kindle your heart with peace . . . and joy.

ELSIE BLACK FUNERAL HOME

1106 North 6th Street Saginaw PL2-2742

BEER and WINE

TO TAKE OUT

FRESH VEGTABLES, and

ALL OF

YOUR DAILY HOUSEHOLDS

NEEDS.

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OPEN 10 TIL 10 MONDAY, TUESDAY, THURSDAY, FRIDAY AND SATURDAY – 10 TIL 2 P.M. WEDNESDAY – 12 TIL 6 P.M. SUNDAY

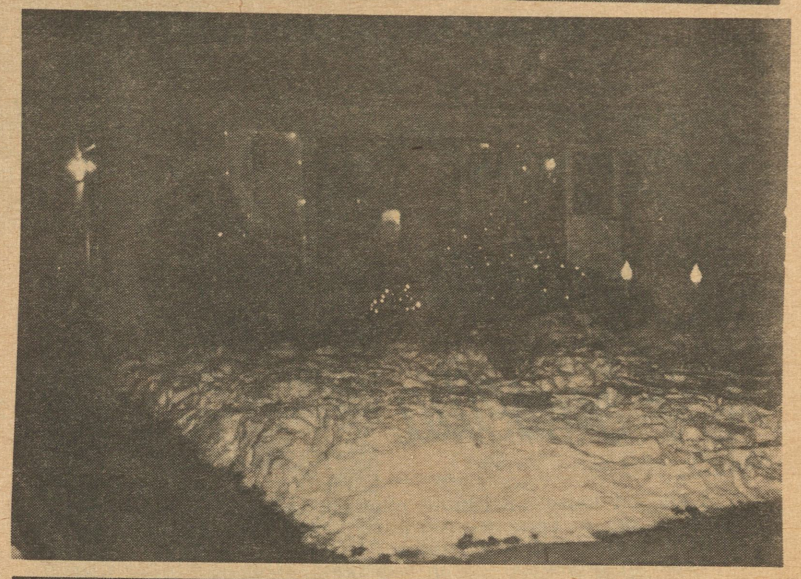
Look at the Holiday Beauty In The Area

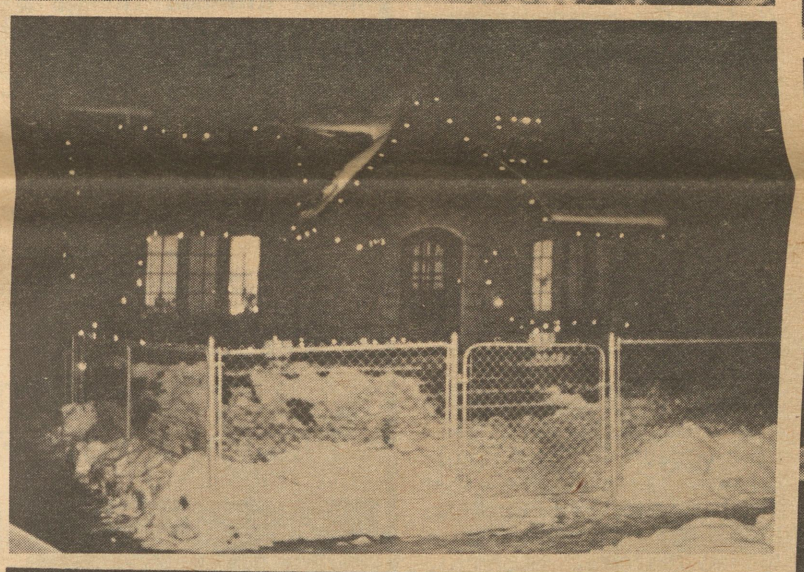
Valley Star takes this opportunity to salute the residents of Northeast Saginaw for their shining holiday spirit and for their generosity in sharing it with the community.

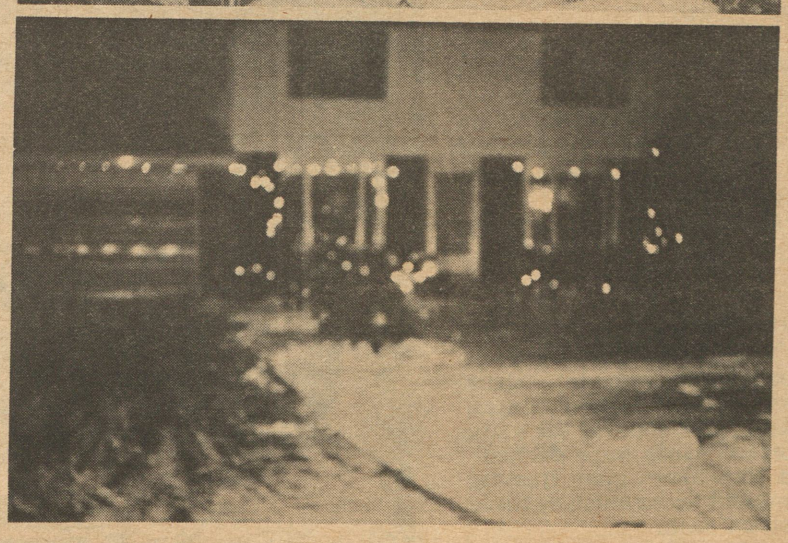
These pictures show the beauty of the Christmas decorations displayed in the area.

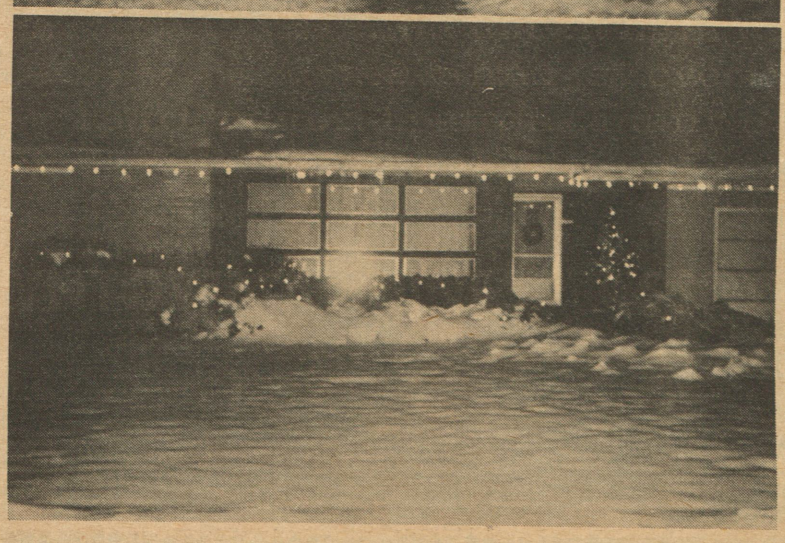
We want to say that we are proud of all those residents who contributed their time and effort to add to the joy of Christmas. Readers, take a Christmas 'color tour' for yourself this week.

It will leave you smiling and warm with the spirit of Christmas.









Rosalinda Beautiful Baby

She's a plump little dumpling that you would like to pick up and hug. Her name's Rosalinda and she's three months old. For all those three months she has waited for parents to adopt her.

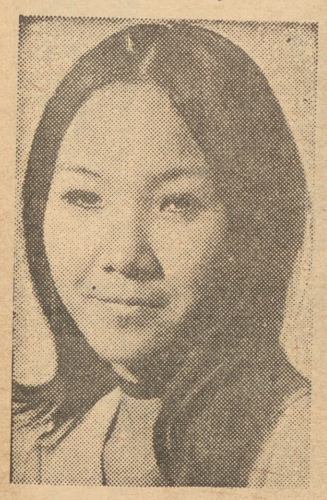
She's a perfect baby, healthy, alert and happy. If her skin were white there would be a line up of approved homes eager to adopt her.

Homes for Black Children is looking for parents for Rosalinda. If your home needs a baby daughter write to Mrs Shirley Burnett, Homes for Black Children, 2595 West Grand Boulevard, Detroit 48208.

Homes for Black Children is Detroit's newest adoption project. It's supported by a special grant from United Foundation.

In the first 16 months of operation it has placed children with 155 black families in the Detroit area. Frequently they complete the adoption study and have a child in their home within three months of their application.

This is another in the series on hard-to-find parents which appears in the women's section of The Sunday News and on News 4 WWJ-TV at 12:30 and 7 p.m. each Monday.



2 QUICK YEARS — Kim Berndt, 15, of Milwaukee, aged two years in 15 minutes in court. Kim, an adopted Korean orphan, is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Berndt. When she came to live with the Berndts in 1959 the orphanage gave her age as 3½.

Inter-Racial Marriage Group Is Formed

MR AND MRS MACMILLAN

James McMillan, founder of a new group call Inter-Racial Marriage Non Profit Organization, explained in a recent interview the beginnings of the new group.

The idea originated from his own experiences with the problems of mixed race marriage. His intention is that the organization will help others who are involved in inter-racial marriages. The organization hopes to spread its message of fairness and racial equality to a state wide level and to hold a convention soon and recruit new members.

Valley Star talked with Mr McMillan and his wife, Kay. They have two daughters , Michelle, 6, and Karla, 4.

He is an amateur phtographer, well known in Northeast Saginaw, and is working toward professional status.

McMillan felt than any mixed race marriage causes problems and can be a very difficult situation. But he also felt that the individual must decide for himself whether or not to become involved in a bi-racial marriage, basing his decision on an honest evaluation of his emotions and motives, and those o f the other people concerned.

The he must be prepared to take the consequences of his decision. McMillan feels he has not suffered and particular discrimination stemming from his marriage.

Mrs. McMillan said she felt she cherished her marriage and her family just as much, as if not more than most other women.

When asked what she would do if she had it to do over again, she answered she would not change anything.

The McMillans agreed that their marriage has been well-accepted by their families, friends and most of their neighbors. Mrs. McMillan felt that it is mostly the lower economic classes who will not accept inter-racial marriage.

MacMillan has been an interested observor of racial problems locally and also nationally for a long time. He feels that too much difference has been made between people of different races, especially young people, and as a result, the progress that should be made by each generation for the benefit of the next has not been made. He felt that hatred between the races is wrong and that parents should be actively involved in teaching their children to respect themselves and other people of every race.

Such teaching would help eliminate problems such as we are now having in our schools, and would also very greatly improve the attitude of the public toward inter-racial marriages.

McMillan hopes that the new Inter-Racial Marriage Non-Profit Organization will be a force in improving race relations and helping inter-racial couples to cope with the problems they face.

McMillan may be contacted at PO Box 888, Saginaw, Michigan 48606.

HOW TO KEEP YOUR Christmas Poinsettia

Let's get those Christmas plants off to a good start. It's much easier to keep them in good health than it is to nurse them back after they begin ailing.

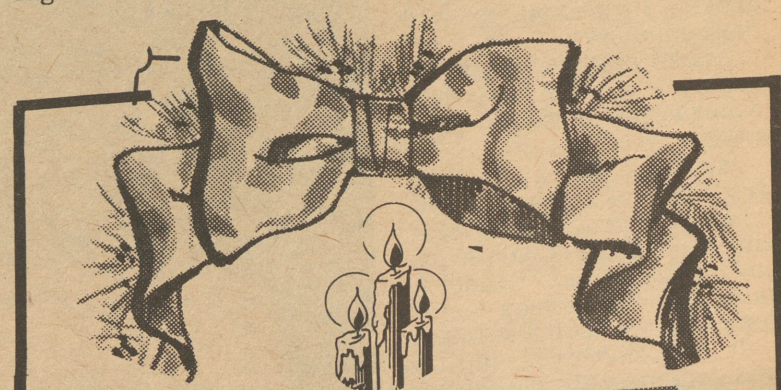
Take the poinsetta — with red, pink, or white bracts. It is very sensitive to changes in temperature, so keep it out of drafts. Use water at room temperature. Bracts will last longer if the plant is kept at lower temperature, particularly at night. If it is near a window, move it back at night so it won't get a chill. Give it bright light but no sun. Gradually withhold water and keep in a cool basement until April or May, watering it once a week.

When the weather warms up, cut back stems to about 6 inches and sink the pot in a protected spot in the garden; prune it back in July or August — or a couple of times during that period. Before the weather turns cold, bring the plant to a South window; water and feed regularly; give it total darkness about twelve hours a night during October and November. Bracts should show color by Thanksgiving and you can discontinue the artificial darkness. The prized part of the poinsettia is the colored bracts or leaves, and not the true flower, which often falls soon after the plant is purchased. If the small flower parts do fall, the showy bracts still remain attractive.

MORE PRETTY SAGINAW HOMES

COST WAS HIGH

When Christmas greetings cards first came into their own in the United States, about 1875, some of the more elegant cards were encrusted with blown glass frosting and sold for as much as three dollars each.



Going Someplace This Holiday Season? If So Then South End Beauty Is The Place To Go For That Hairdo For You!

Carmalia Southend Beauty Salon

Specializing In All Fields Of Cosmetlogy.
Facial – Manicure
Hair Styling – Permanent
Special Attention To Men & Women Catering To Blow-Up And Curly Afro.

WIGS – WIGLETS – FALLS
All At A Price That You Can Afford.
Four Capable Operators To Serve You.
Open Mon., Thurs., Sat. 8 A.M. Til 6 P.M.

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PL5-9245 2620 S. Washington

The
VALLEY STAR
takes you on
a tour each
week to the

BLUE NOTE
North Washington
at 25th Street

MR B's
15th at Remington

THE
BISMARK
3rd and Lapeer
The Carter Brothers
Your Host

Be There
Next Week
And Join
The Fun

JOHN'S
RECREATION
Keeps a
watchful,
friendly eye
on our youth

FUN AT Mr. B's . .

BLUE NOTE and BISMARK

★★★★

Giving Gifts

Like greetings, gifts are synonymous with Christmas, as part of a custom that probably has its beginning in the Wise Men's presentation of gold, frankincense and myrrh to the Christ Child.

Some researchers trace the gift-giving tradition to even earlier, pre-Christian times. During pagan holidays observed at about the same time as the modern Christmas, ancient Romans and Britons exchanged gifts in token of the season.

* * *

Lighting the Way

Light and Christmas go together, for the deepest meaning of the holiday represents Christ, the Light of the world. From the bonfires and candles of yesteryear to the twinkling electric ornaments of today, light symbolizes Christmas.

According to Irish legend, a candle should always be placed in the window on Christmas Eve. Each Christmas, it was said, Christ wanders the earth in search of a welcome, and a candle should light the way.

Driving Yule Out

St. Knut's Day, January 13th, is the traditional time for taking down Christmas greens in Sweden. According to custom, as the tree is dismantled, young folk dance while their elders sing, "Twentieth day Knut dri eth Yule out."

This custom is believed to be derived from the laws of King Canute, written in the early 11th century.

Guarding the Home

Sweden has an unusual gift-giver — it's a goat! According to tradition, the Yulbock or Yule goat comes to *the door of Swedish homes on Christmas Eve and tosses the family's gifts through the doorway.*

Another legendary guest at Swedish holiday celebrations is Tomte, a kind-hearted elf who guards the home. A dish of food is placed in a quiet corner, so that Tomte may feast as he secretly observes the family fun.

MERRY CHRISTMAS

W3 SOUL TOP 40 PLAY LIST

	TITLE	ARTIST
1.	I'M FOR YOU	THE TEMPREES
2.	HEAVEN HELP US ALL	STEVIE WONDER
3.	GROOVE ME	KING FLOYD
4.	YOU AND ME	ARETHA FRANKLIN
5.	I'M STILL HERE	THE NOTATIONS
6.	IF I WERE YOUR WOMAN	GLADYS KNIGHT
7.	STONED LOVE	THE SUPREMES
8.	IF IT AIN'T LOVE	THE GLASS HOUSE
9.	PAY TO THE PIPER	THE CHAIRMEN OF THE BOARD
10.	I CAN'T GET NEXT TO YOU	AL GREEN
11.	ACE OF SPADES	O.V. WRIGHT
12.	THE TEARS OF A CLOWN	SMOKEY & THE MIRACLES
13.	PRECIOUS, PRECIOUS	JACKIE MOORE
14.	WOMAN'S WAY	ROZETTA JOHNSON
15.	HIT ME WITH MUSIC	THE DUPONTS
16.	WRAP IT UP	ARCHIE BELL & THE DRELLS
17.	PUSH & PULL	RUFUS THOMAS
18.	MARIONETTE	THE MARVELETTES
19.	MUST BE LOVE COMING DOWN	MAJOR LANCE
20.	DO ME RIGHT	THE DETROIT EMERALDS
21.	SOMEBODY'S WATCHING YOU	LITTLE SISTER
22.	GOOD MAN	RONALDO DOMINO
23.	ARE YOU MY WOMAN	THE CHI-LITES
24.	GOD BLESS WHOEVER SENT YOU	THE ORIGINALS
25.	HANGING ON	HUGH MASEKELA
26.	WHERE DO YOU GO	BOBBY FOSTER
27.	I CAN'T TELL A LIE	GASLIGHT
28.	BORN TO WANDER	RARE EARTH
29.	YOUR TIME TO CRY	JOE SIMON
30.	FIFTEEN CENT LOVE	ALBERT JONES
31.	WHAT'LL I DO	NEW BIRTH
32.	IF YOU DON'T WORK	BOBBY BYRD
33.	CRAZY LOVE	ESTHER PHILLIPS
34.	SADDLE UP	ALVIN CASH
35.	FREIGHTENED GIRL	SILENT MAJORITY
36.	GET IN VOLVED	JAMES BROWN
37.	FOUND THAT BOY	BETTY WRIGHT
38.	GLORY OF LOVE	THE DELLS
39.	TRAPPED IN A LOVE	BARRINO BROTHERS
40.	WORKIN' TOGETHER	IKE & TINA TURNER

Vocational Rehabilitation Helping People to New Lives

In June 1970, the Vocational Rehabilitation program had its 50th anniversary celebration.

The implementation of the federal program took place in 1920. Michigan was one of the early implementers having its beginning in 1921. The total state budget for Rehabilitation was $70-000 in 1921 and has grown to over $11 million dollars in 1970. In 1922 the total number of individuals rehabilitated in Michigan was 34. In 1969 Michigan DVR rehabilitated over 6,000 disabled individuals.

There are presently over 30 individual district offices in Michigan. The District office here serves clients in Saginaw, Bay , Midland and Arenac counties. There are 12 counselors serving about 1,200 clients. This actually reflects the size of active caseloads, however, many more are seen during the course of a year. As individual cases are closed when services have been completed, others are being referred and activated.

After referral, a client is seen by one of the VR counselors to secure meaningful information which will help to develop a suitable rehabilitation plan. Certain diagnostic studies are scheduled to uncover any unforseen problems which may interfere with the rehabilitation plan if they are not discovered on time.

The Division of Vocational Rehabilitation whenever possible has utilized the multi-agency aproach in the serving of clients. According to James O'Brien, supervisor of the Saginaw District office, the counselors who are using the multi-agency approach have been much more successful in their program planning.

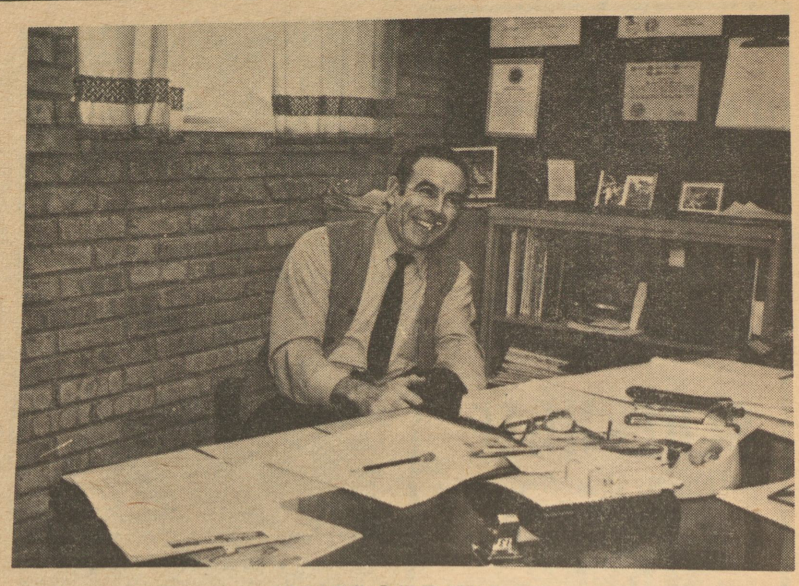
In 1968 the Superintendent of Public Instruction made a request to establish VR's present pattern and level of service to the disadvantaged in each of our district offices with the specific direction that as VR expands it s services, it *should direct its major expansion in efforts to serve the disadvantaged. The results during the past two years supports this direction whereby an increasing number of disadvantaged have been served by DVR.*

It would be difficult to identify the individual programs without missing some, however, a few should be mentioned to show what has been accomplished more recently by the multi-agency approach.

In September of 1970, the Saginaw office of the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation initiated a custodail training program With the Department of Social Services, The Michigan Employment Security Commission, Vocational Education and the Chamber of Commerce 12 unemployed adults were given six weeks training at the old Saginaw High Schol.

Ten of the graduates are now employed. The publicity given by the Saginaw News, the Chamber of Commerce, and the MESC has resulted in the industrial community of Saginaw working together to bring the graduates into gainful employment and remove them from public support.

Mrs. Marjory S. Hughes, from the Saginaw DVR office, coordinated the program with the assistance of representatives from the other agencies mentioned above.



JAMES O'BRIEN

JIM CAMPAU & MISS ZENA ZUMETA

Back to the Tribe

With the 90-year-old spiritual leader of the Taos Pueblo Indians and the blanket-clad council secretary watching, President Nixon signs a bill Tuesday giving the tribe title to their sacred Blue Lake and 48,000 acres of land surrounding it in New Mexico. The Taos, a small tribe that worships nature, has been fighting to regain possession of the lake for 64 years.

JUST FOR YOU!

NEW YEAR'S EVE PARTY

Place – Diplomat Club
Time: 9:00 P.M. – Until?

LIVE MUSIC – FREE CHAMPAGNE & SNACKS

FOR MEMBERS ONLY!

Only $5.00 per Couple – Get your tickets in the Office.
10:00 A.M. to 6:00 P.M. – The first 200 Couples only.

FEATURES ROBIN

One of the first Christmas cards ever published, a small (two by three-and-a-half inches) greeting printed in London in 1862 by Goodall and Son, features a robin presiding over a pastoral winter scene, framed by paper lace.

Christmas season folklore is fascinating. Whether true or not, there are innumerable tales on traditions of the holiday season.

Animals are prominently mentioned in many legends and customs.

One Christmas legend tells of the little gray lamb with a longing in its heart to be white. It wandered to the dwelling of the Holy Family, lingering at the door. The Christ Child, seeing the lamb, beckoned it in. He laid His hand on its head, and it became white as snow.

Norwegians, Swedes, and the Swiss make it a special point to be extremely friendly and hospitable on Christmas, both to domestic pets and wild birds.

A persistent Christmas legend is that bees hum a carol in honor of the Christ Child. In England, holly is placed on the hive to wish the bees a Merry Christmas.

Spaniards are taught to treat cows kindly: they believe that cattle breathed upon the Christ Child to keep Him warm. Tradition holds that cows and horses kneel in adoration at midnight each Christmas Eve. Among the residents of the German Alps it is believed that on Christmas Eve all animals can speak.

In Worcestershire, it was at one time the custom to give a bough of mistletoe to the cow that first bore a calf after New Year's Day, to bring good luck to all.

In Syria, the youngest camel which accompanied the Three Wise Men is called the camel of Jesus, and it is this camel which brings gifts to children.

In Bohemia a horse is taken into a river at Christmas and walked against the current. The rider tosses an apple into the stream and if it hits the horse it will be stronger during the coming year.

Giving Gifts

Since the Wise Men gave of their treasures to the Christ Child, giving has been part of the tradition of Christmas.

The idea of gifts as homage dates from even earlier times, when kings demanded special tribute from their subjects during holiday seasons. Thus the Wise Men, in offering precious gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh, expressed their reverence for the newborn King of mankind.

Giving to celebrate a happy time was a familiar part of many pagan festivals.

The Romans honored Saturn, their god of agriculture, with a winter festival called the Saturnalia. During this joyous feast, they exchanged gifts — wax candles, clay dolls and various trinkets.

HOUSE FOR RENT
East Side Location, would like 2 year lease. 3 Bedrooms. Brick Home with Garage. PL5-5844.

Certificates Given To Graduates

On Monday, December 14, Valley Star visited with Mr. Jim O'Brien, district supervisor of the Division of Vocatinal Rehabilitation.

We also talked with Miss Zena Zumeta, coordinator of vocational rehabilitation and Mr James Campau, job developer for Opportunities Industrialization Center.

In an interview, Miss Zumeta described some of the opportunities that are available to her clients and to other youths who might be interested in the services of DVR. Miss Zumeta is a graduate of Smith College, and has worked in Saginaw for 2 1/2 years as a coordinator. Miss Zumeta said there are no age limits in the programs provided. Most of her clients, she said are referred to DVR by other agencies in the Tri-County area. Her job is to learn what skills and abilities they have and strengthen these with whatever training or higher education is needed, then provide job placement for those who complete courses.

After talking with these people, we were more aware of the many services DVR is providing for the youth of our community.

For example, Valley Star attended the aide and orderly certificate presentation at St. Mary's Hospital on December 8, and were delighted with the good work that is being done through the efforts of this agency.

The aide and orderly program is funded and cosponsored by the division of Vocational Rehabilitation, Opportunities Industrialization Center and St. Mary Hospital.

The program is a very worthwhile one and one that the district can be proud of.

Happy Moment For All.

Rev. R. Alston, Jim O'Brien

Mrs. G. Rouse Presents Certificate.

Zena Chats with One of The Sisters.

They Go Together— Feasting and Festivity

During the Christmas season, merry sounds ring out, pleasing sights greet the eye — and tantalizing aromas fill the air. Good food is as much a part of holiday tradition as bells and carols, greens and gifts.

At this festive time, people delight in serving their families and friends an abundance of choice foods. The custom probably began with the ancient winter festivals.

In the course of time, naturally each nation developed its own treasured customs in connection with the Christmas dinner, say the editors of The New Book of Knowledge.

Serving the "Bird"

On American tables, the center of attraction is usually the turkey. This custom has its origin in the English "Christmas bird" — usually a goose, capon or chicken, rather than a turkey.

In medieval times, a large bird was standard fare at English Christmas dinners among the common people. In castle and manor, however, a "bird" wasn't always the main dish.

To the tune of the old carol, "The Boar's Head in Hand I Bear," the boar's head was borne to the table in solemn procession. Then followed other courses — and what courses! The most lavish of dinners usually featured a boar's head.

For a medieval feast, a typical menu included 17 main dishes — everything from roasted swan to a kid with a pudding in its belly!

Breaking Bread

Everywhere, a widespread use of breads and pastries is customary for the Christmas feast.

This has its origin in pre-Christian and early-Christian customs of the agricultural nations of Eastern Europe, where peasants offered thanksgiving for a good harvest, usually of grain, during the winter season.

Special holiday cakes were thought to bring good fortune and good health.

More directly connected with the religious meaning of the season is the "Christ-bread" traditional in many countries. This is a long cake, and its shape is meant to symbolize the Christ Child wrapped in swaddling clothes.

Both mince pie and plum pudding began as national Christmas dishes in England. Like the "Christ-bread," early mince pies were baked in symbolic shape — an oblong meant to represent the manger.

Toasting the Holiday

As today's punch or eggnog bowl attests, favorite beverages and friendly toasts go along with the good cheer and good feasting of the holiday.

It all began with the English "wassail" bowl. The wassail, a holiday beverage of medieval times, was served hot in a large bowl, and it was compounded of ale, apples, eggs, sugar and spices.

The name comes from "Was Haile," a Saxon greeting which means, "Your health." Gradually, the word "wassailing" began to mean any kind of Christmas revelry accompanied by a festive beverage.

For Icelanders, Christmas Eve is the holiest night of the the holiday season.

Tradition says, however, that many years ago elves, dwarfs and other little folks pranced and danced about the streets on the night before Christmas

Yodeling Yule

An old custom of the Austrian Tyrol is the Christmas yodel. Traditionally, the Yuletide yodel—a song without words — may be improvised, or it may be based on the tune of a familiar carol.

Legend Express Mood

From home to home, from country to country, Yule celebrations abound. The happy traditions of gift giving, home decorating, carol singing, card sending, candle lighting and tree trimming express the merriment of the season.

Popular folk custms of nation after nation have been absorbed into the international legend and lore of the Yuletide. Yet virtually every nation — and every home and family, too — has its special way of celebrating Christmas, and its special memories of Christmas past.

Carrying in Straw

Straw is a traditional part of Christmas celebrations in Sweden — in probable remembrance of the first Christmas when there was straw in the manger.

While "carrying in the Christmas straw" is a tradition rather than a modern custom, Swedish people still make straw and wooden figures to hang on their Christmas trees.

"San Tan Lou Yin"

In Hong Kong, Santa Claus goes by the name of "San Tan You Lin."

The Hong Kong department stores employ elderly men who are specially costumed for the season. Just like Santa Claus, San Tan You Lin is present for the purpose of holding the youngsters on his knee and listening to their requests for gifts.

Log Had Charms

In ancient Germany, the Yule log was known as the "Christbrand." One belief held that if the charred log was placed in a cornbin, it would act as a charm to ward off mice.

If the weather turned stormy, the Christbrand was quickly brought back to the fire. While it burned, superstition said, the house was safe from lightning.

Going "Mumming"

"Mumming" is a Yule custom that originated in early England. Mummers, masked and in costume, silently enacted ritual plays about the death of winter and the old year.

The custom still survives in some parts of the world, although the plays are no longer performed. Today mummers usually entertain with dancing and instrumental music. They are rewarded with treats.

IT'S TOO COMMON

In most of the United States, the poinsettia is a prized Christmas flower. In Hawaii, however, it grows so profusely that it is considered too common for such an important holiday. Potted orchids, anthurium or the orange-and-blue flower called "bird of paradise" are Hawaiian holiday favorites.

Children Show Generosity

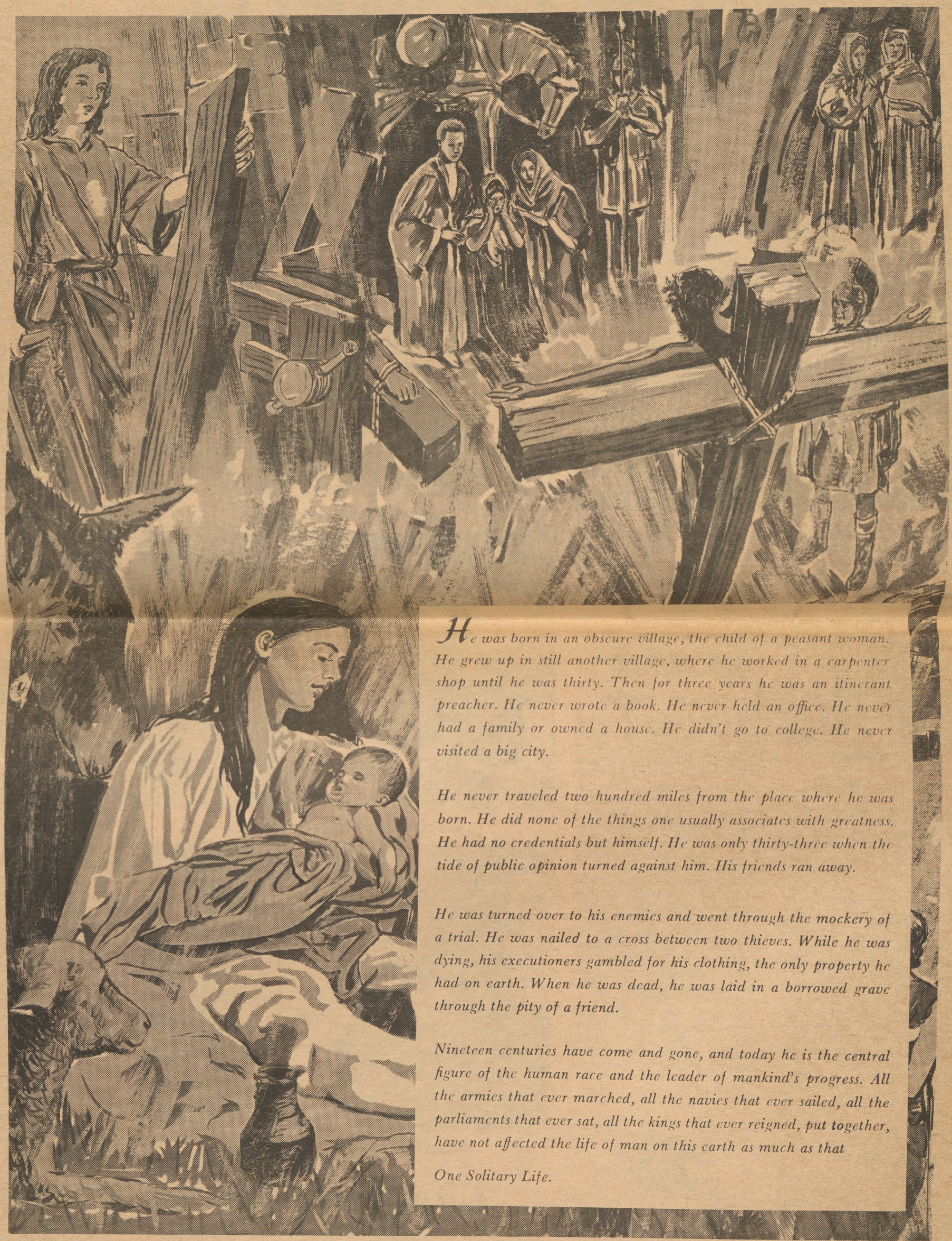
As a certain white-bearded, jolly old gentleman makes his rounds on Christmas Eve, delivering happy surprises to children the world over, he may look forward to being, in turn, surprised.

In the legend and lore of Christmas, giving to Santa is a time-honored tradition, with the gifts usually taking the form of food or beverage. Today, many families encourage children to be generous, by observing the custom of setting out treats for Santa — perhaps some candy, a dish of cookies, a glass of milk.

Through the ages, the gift-giver now known as Santa Claus has been called by many different names, but Santa's predecessors, like Santa himself, were often greeted with special treats.

In Italy, Befana is the gift-giver who preceded Santa. She took her name from the name for Twelfth Night — Epiphania, or Epiphany — and brought her gifts on Epiphany Eve, January 5th.

To make ready for Befana, tradition says, Italian children empty their pockets and hang up their clothes. Then into each pocket goes a surprise



He was born in an obscure village, the child of a peasant woman. He grew up in still another village, where he worked in a carpenter shop until he was thirty. Then for three years he was an itinerant preacher. He never wrote a book. He never held an office. He never had a family or owned a house. He didn't go to college. He never visited a big city.

He never traveled two hundred miles from the place where he was born. He did none of the things one usually associates with greatness. He had no credentials but himself. He was only thirty-three when the tide of public opinion turned against him. His friends ran away.

He was turned over to his enemies and went through the mockery of a trial. He was nailed to a cross between two thieves. While he was dying, his executioners gambled for his clothing, the only property he had on earth. When he was dead, he was laid in a borrowed grave through the pity of a friend.

Nineteen centuries have come and gone, and today he is the central figure of the human race and the leader of mankind's progress. All the armies that ever marched, all the navies that ever sailed, all the parliaments that ever sat, all the kings that ever reigned, put together, have not affected the life of man on this earth as much as that

One Solitary Life.